



MEMORANDUM

Date: April 22, 2008

To: California Public Libraries

From: Susan Hildreth
State Librarian of California 

RE: 2008/09 "California of the Past" Digital Storytelling Grant Program

I'm pleased to announce we are now accepting applications for the 2008/09 "California of the Past" Digital Storytelling Grant Program.

Under this program, the State Library will provide a digital storytelling station, onsite training in use of the digital station and in promotion of the project, and a small grant to support the promotion and operations of a digital storytelling station to a maximum of twelve libraries. During the grant year, those libraries selected to participate in the program will solicit members of the community to visit the library to record their memories of California or of their local community in the past, for example, stories of what main street used to be like, or memories of raising their children in the community, or stories their parents would tell of life in the area when they first moved here. These stories can address the recent past or distant past. Both long time residents and more recent residents will be encouraged to share their memories. These digital stories will be made accessible on a central website of "California of the Past" stories. Sample stories recorded by libraries participating in the pilot project for this program can be viewed at www.digitalstorystation.com.

Under the 2008/09 program, at least two of the grants will be targeted at a specific audience. One grant will be targeted for a public/tribal library partnership which will result in Native Americans recording digital stories. Another grant will be targeted for a public library partnership with an organization/museum or other entity that would result in Japanese Americans, who were interned due to Executive Order 9066, recording digital stories.

The program is envisioned as an 18 month program, and we anticipate successful applicants will also receive a smaller grant in 2009/2010 to continue the program.

The program guidelines and application form for this program can be found on our website at http://www.library.ca.gov/grants/lsta/lsta_app_08_09.html

The deadline for receipt of applications 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2008.

If you have any questions about the application or program, please contact Kathy Low, Library Programs Consultant, at (916) 653-6822, or by email at klow@library.ca.gov.